

614285^{25X1}CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Volkspolizei Luft in Kamenz

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED EPARED 4 March 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 14 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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- 25X1 1. The headquarters in Kamenz was designated Air Technical School No 500. This school, from September 1952 to February 1953, consisted of one course having a personnel strength of about 1,200 officers, NCOs and EM. In February 1953, the school was subdivided into two training courses and in April 1953, a third course was established. Training course I consisted of officer candidates who were quartered in installation I of the Panzer Kaserne in Kamenz. Course II consisted of NCO candidates quartered in installation II of the Panzer Kaserne, and course III consisted of officer candidates quartered in the former Soviet komendatura.¹ 25X1

The instruction officers of the cadre personnel of the air technical school wore white-bordered light blue epaulets and wings on their collar patches. The NCOs and EM of the instruction personnel also wore light blue service color and wing insignia. The wings on the collar patches worn by the technical and flying personnel were silver and golden respectively.²

2. The guard personnel for the Panzer Kaserne and Kamenz airfield were furnished by the individual companies. The guard detail for the Panzer Kaserne included 1 officer on duty, 1 assistant to the officer on duty, 1 training officer, and 43 EM. Guard duty was performed around the clock including 8 hours sentry duty, 8 hours alert duty, and 8 hours rest. The guard personnel were quartered in the headquarters building. The guard detail for the airfield included 1 officer on duty and 22 soldiers. Both details mounted guard at the same time.
3. The Air Technical School No 500 consisted of: the headquarters, a supply platoon, a medical platoon with a dispensary, a motor vehicle platoon, and a fire fighting platoon; training course I with a headquarters and companies Nos 1 through 5; training course II with a headquarters and companies Nos 6 through 9;

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

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- 2 -

and, training course III with a headquarters and the 10th Co. The 9th Co consisted of 6 platoons and each platoon of 3 squads. Two platoons each were combined to one training group. The individual training groups of the 9th Co had the numerical designations 91, 92, and 93. At the beginning of August 1953, an 11th Co was activated which was not assigned to one of the three training courses, but the pertaining personnel were to receive basic training up to September 1953. [redacted] the members of this company, after some time, were to be distributed among the three training courses. The instruction personnel of the Air Technical School No 500 were subdivided into 14 groups. Source could not determine whether these groups belonged to the headquarters of the school. 3

25X1

4. The headquarters of Air Technical School No 500 included 1 school commander, 1 political officer, 1 chief of staff, 1 officer responsible for basic training, 1 officer acting as FdJ secretary, and 1 sports officer. The exact personnel strength of the headquarters was not known but it was estimated at 20 officers and 50 NCOs and EM. Training course II consisted of a headquarters with 1 chief of the course, 1 political officer, 1 chief instructor, his deputy, and 1 clerk. The companies Nos 6 through 9 comprised 4 company chiefs, 4 political officers, 8 platoon leaders, i.e. 2 to each company, 120 NCOs and EM each of the companies Nos 6, 7 and 9, and 80 NCOs and EM of the 8th Co. Each of the 6 platoons of the 9th Co consisted of 1 deputy platoon leader, 3 squad leaders and 17 EM, with 1 platoon leader to three platoons each. The deputy platoon leader and the squad leaders were taken from among the students. Each of the 14 groups of instruction personnel consisted of about 10 officers. The organization and strength of training courses I and III and of the 11th Co were not known.

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5. [redacted] personnel of the school:

Headquarters.

School commander

Political officer

Colonel Leopold (fnu), [redacted]

Lieutenant Colonel Raubach (fnu), [redacted] 25X1

Chief of staff

Officer charged with basic training

FdJ secretary

Sports secretary

Major Harnisch (fnu)

Captain Kraft (fnu), [redacted]

Lieutenant Moelle (fnu), [redacted]

Lieutenant Peterson (fnu) [redacted]

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Training Course II

Chief of the course

Captain Rother (fnu), [redacted]
presumably had been an officer of the
former German Armed Forces

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Political officer

Lieutenant Willig (fnu), [redacted]

Chief instructor

convinced SED man

Captain Dietrich (fnu), [redacted]

convinced SED man

Deputy of the chief instructor

Senior Lieutenant Baltrosch (fnu), [redacted]

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[redacted] convinced SED man 25X1

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9th Co

Chief

Lieutenant Wissmann (fnu), [redacted]

convinced SED man

Political officer

Sub-Lieutenant Schreiter (fnu), [redacted]

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL/

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL/

- 3 -

25X1

Platoon leader

Lieutenant Wilhelm Barth

Platoon leader

Lieutenant Friedrich (fnu),

Instruction Personnel

Electrotechnics

Lieutenant Hennemann (fnu),

Lieutenant Hartig (fnu),

Lieutenant Thielecke (fnu),

Ordnance matters

Senior Lieutenant May (fnu),

convinced SED man,

Lieutenant Mueller (fnu), a

Lieutenant Batz (fnu),

Lieutenant Friedrich (fnu), about 22 years old,

ructor,

Sub-Lieutenant Ransin (fnu),

Sub-Lieutenant Scharf (fnu),

6. Five Soviet officers were assigned to the Air Technical School No 500 as liaison officers, including 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant colonel and 3 majors, all of whom were golden-bordered blue epaulets with golden wings. Two of the majors were repeatedly present during the class-session and offered no interference.
7. The weapons assigned to the air technical school were stored in a special ordnance stockroom and were handed out to the individual units only for guard duty or for firing practices. There was an undetermined number of Soviet-model light machine guns, carbines, submachine guns and pistols. The weapons of Soviet make had the numerical designation 100. Ammunition was stored in 7 ammunition houses in the quartering area. The units themselves were not equipped with ammunition. Additional equipment was also stored in the ordnance stockroom of the school. Source never heard of the presence of gas protective equipment.
8. The headquarters of the school was equipped with an undetermined number of trucks, sedans and motorcycles, as well as 2 fire trucks. No vehicles were assigned to the subordinate units. Repairs on the motor vehicles were done in the workshop in the barracks installation.

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9. The first training stage of the 9th Co which lasted from September 1952 to February 1953 included: elements of electro-technics on the basis of Soviet manuals; elements of arithmetic and geometry (triangle) on the basis of German books; physics including elements of mechanics, electricity and optics; technical drawing; instruction on the handling of tools and measuring implements and training in locksmith's work; training in firing with light machine guns, carbines, pistols and small caliber arms; basic training up to platoon level; political indoctrination, such as history of the KP in the USSR and Germany, study of the works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, biographies of Lenin, Stalin, Liebknecht, Rosa Luxemburg and Pleck; sports including field sports, training in a gymnasium, field athletics, handball and football.

10. The notebooks of the students were kept in the classified materials center after the lessons. The individual pages of each book were numbered and held together with a sealed thread.

11. During the period from 5 August 1952 to 16 October 1953, [redacted]

[redacted] Kamenz airfield [redacted] was covered with 25X1 very wet grass. Along the length and width of the field were laid about 15 and 10 concrete slabs respectively, each about 1.5 meters square, which probably covered the drainage trenches. A runway which had been covered with runway mats was built in February 1953. These mats were removed in June 1953, as they were unsuitable in rainy weather. No taxiways or aircraft revetments were available at the field. Concrete aprons, each about 50 meters square, were located in front of the 2 hangars, each of which was about 50 x 20 meters. Near the flight control station were two storage tents, each about 50 x 20 meters. Four unoccupied quartering buildings, each about 30 x 10 meters, were observed in the southeastern corner of the field. Two fuel dumps, each with 3 tanks, were located in the northeastern section of the field. Each of the fuel containers was 12 to 15 meters long and 2.5 meters in diameter. The last containers had been installed underground in mid-October 1953. About 30 to 40 filled 200-liter barrels were stored in front of the first fuel dump. There were two tank trucks for refueling purposes. No ammunition, bombs, spare parts or sets were available at the field. There were no boundary lights around the field, but there were red obstacle lights on the four corners of the two hangars, on the flight control building, on the smokestack of the heating plant and on the heating house. The field was surrounded by a 2-meter-high wall which ran for 2-km along the road to Kamenz and by a board fence along the southern and eastern edges. It was guarded by a sentry at the entrance gate and one patrol each in front of the flight control building, the two hangars and the two fuel dumps. 4

12. The VPL Unit No 500 was quartered in the former Panzer Kaserne in Kamenz. The barracks area was divided into two sections, referred to as Object I and Object II. Object I housed the staff of the unit, the motor transport personnel, the cadre personnel, the school and the officers candidates. Object II housed the units with NCO candidates and the cadre personnel. Temporarily, the barracks installation also housed a flying unit of the VPL with the pertaining technical unit. 5

13. Unit No 500 consisted of the staff, training course I with companies Nos 1 through 5 and 10, and training course II with companies Nos 6 through 9. The 2d Co comprised 6 platoons, each platoon consisting of 3 squads. The unit had a total strength of about 200 officers, 1,500 to 2,000 NCOs and EM. The staff of the school consisted of about 100 officers and 70 NCOs and EM. The 2d Co comprised 4 officers and about 120 NCOs and EM. 6

CONFIDENTIAL/

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 5 -

25X1	14.	[redacted]	officers assigned to Unit No 500	[redacted]	25X1
25X1		[redacted]			25X1
25X1			Commanding officer	Colonel Leopold (fnu), [redacted]	25X1
			Political officer	Lieutenant Colonel Ranbach (fnu) [redacted]	25X1
				[redacted]	25X1
			Chief of staff	Major Harnisch (fnu) [redacted]	
			Party control officer	Major Kurt Voigtlaender mason by trade, [redacted]	
			Officer charged with the training courses	Major Bueschel (fnu) [redacted]	25X1
			Officer charged with basic training	Captain Kraft (fnu), [redacted]	
			Financial officer	Captain Fischer (fnu) [redacted]	
			Culture officer	Captain Muerbe (fnu) [redacted]	
			Supply officer	Captain Thieme (fnu) [redacted]	
			Chief of the classified materials section	Captain Dietrich (fnu) [redacted]	
			Chief of the cadre section	Captain Bolzenthall (fnu) [redacted]	
			Chief medical officer	Captain Dr. Roeser (fnu) [redacted]	
			Political officers	Lieutenant Stengel (fnu) and Lieutenant Hofmann (fnu)	25X1 25X1
			FdJ secretary	Lieutenant Moelle (fnu)	
			Motor transport officer	Sub-Lieutenant Geiger (fnu)	
			Chief of workshop training	Senior Lieutenant Frahm (fnu)	
			Chief of the library	Sub-Lieutenant Walter (fnu), a woman	25X1
			Medical officer	Sub-Lieutenant Lorenz (fnu), a woman	25X1
			Instructors and chiefs of training groups	Captain Kernchen (fnu) [redacted] [redacted] Captain Hassmann (fnu) [redacted] [redacted]	

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL/

25X1

- 6 -

Instructors

Captain Fischer (fnu) 25X1

Captain Schulz (fnu), 25X1

Lieutenant Pilz (fnu), 25X1

Senior Lieutenant Grossmann (fnu), 25X1

Senior Lieutenant Henschel (fnu) 25X1

Political officer

Instructors

Senior Lieutenant Thuron (fnu) 25X1

Senior Lieutenant Hennemann (fnu), 25X1

Senior Lieutenant Hoffmann (fnu) 25X1

Lieutenant Fischer (fnu)

Sub-Lieutenant Brandt (fnu)

Sub-Lieutenant Klinke (fnu)

Sub-Lieutenant Richter (fnu)

Sub-Lieutenant Glustek (fnu)

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Training Course I

Chief

Major Boldt (fnu)

Chief of 1st Co

Senior Lieutenant Schnabel (fnu),

Chief of 2d Co

Lieutenant Ziesche (fnu),

Political officer of
2d Co

Sub-Lieutenant Martin (fnu)

Platoon leaders

Lieutenant Kiessling (fnu) and
Lieutenant Lederer (fnu),

Chief of 3d Co

Lieutenant Faustian (fnu),

Political officer of 4th Co

Lieutenant Jaehrling (fnu),

Chief of 5th Co

Lieutenant Wochnick (fnu),
Lieutenant Leuner (fnu)

Political officer of 10th Co

Senior Lieutenant Lorenz (fnu)

Training Course II

Chief

Captain Rother (fnu)

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Chief of 6th Co

Lieutenant Wissmann (fnu),

Chief of 7th Co

Lieutenant Baum (fnu),

Platoon leader of 9th Co

Lieutenant Blochberger (fnu)

CONFIDENTIAL,

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

- 7 -

15. Soviet Liaison officers of Unit No 500 included Colonel Herz (fnu), [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Colonel Tannenberg (fnu), [redacted] and Captain 25X1
 Dieter (fnu) [redacted] These Soviet officers wore VPL uniforms

[redacted] They repeatedly appeared during the lessons but never interrupted the procedure. According to an order issued by the commanding officer of Unit No 500, all wishes of the Soviet advisors had to be fulfilled immediately. The Soviet manuals required for the lessons, were translated by interpreters assigned to the headquarters of the unit and subsequently handed out as rough copies to the instructors. The instructors repeatedly complained that they received the manuals very late, thus being unable to prepare thoroughly for the lessons.

16. The weapons of the unit were stored in the ordnance stockroom. Weapons available included Soviet-made light machine guns with drum magazines under the barrels, carbines, pistols and sub-machine guns. Ammunition was stored in the ammunition houses of the installation. No ammunition was stored with the individual companies.
17. Motor vehicles available included about 30 trucks of which about 20 were not in operational use, 7 to 10 sedans, 4 or 5 prime movers, 2 3-ton Molotov-type radio trucks, 2 Horch-type semi-trailer tank trucks, 2 fire trucks, 1 ambulance, and about 20 motorcycles. Repairs on the motor vehicles were done in repair shops in the barracks installation. The vehicles were filled by two pumps in a filling station at the barracks installation. Personnel of the filling station stated that a total of 5,000 liters of fuel were stored in two underground fuel tanks.
18. During the first 3 months of training of course I, basic instruction and training was given, including: firing practices; infantry tactics; athletics; service regulations; algebra; geometry; mechanics; dynamics; and, statics. Only about 20 percent of the students were able to follow the lessons. No manuals of instruction were used. This fact and the short period of time available for the instructors to prepare the lessons had the result that the instructors themselves often were not able to master the matter of instruction. During the main course which followed the preparatory course, instruction was given on the designs of Yak-18, Yak-11 and La-9 aircraft. After 17 June, instruction on jet aircraft and jet engines was discontinued and the previously available cut-open models of MiG-15s were removed. Additional subjects of training included: pre-flight procedures on Yak-18, Yak-11 and La-9 aircraft; designs of Ash-82 FN-model, M-11 model and piston engines; air tactics; aircraft theory; map reading; aerodynamics on the basis of Soviet instruction material by Chaplicki (fnu) (phonetic spelling), Shukovski (fnu) (phonetic spelling) and Tsolkovski (fnu) (phonetic spelling); theory of the steady flow according to Lomonosov (fnu); instruction on characteristics of material; lubricants; and practical training. The unit was equipped with cut-open models of Yak-18s, Yak-11 and La-9 aircraft which were located in a hangar of the installation. Instruction charts and models were made by the instructors themselves. There was a complete workshop equipment with metal and wood working machines for practical training. No optical equipment, gas protective equipment or other equipment was available.

19. The daily duty roster was as follows:

6 a.m.	veille
6:05 a.m. to 6:20 a.m.	athletics
7 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.	breakfast
7:45 a.m. to 8 a.m.	company roll call and political indoctrination

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

- 8 -

8:15 a.m. to noon	instruction
12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.	dinner
2 p.m. to 7 p.m.	instruction
7:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.	supper
8 p.m. to 10 p.m.	work
10 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.	off duty
10:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m.	company roll call and off duty

20. During the first year of training, the officers candidates received a monthly gross pay of about 300 eastmarks or about 256 eastmarks net; the NCO candidates grossed 330 eastmarks or 260 to 270 eastmarks net from which were deducted 7 eastmarks for laundry and 10 eastmarks for the Berlin recovery program.
21. The rations issued were good and abundant. [redacted] the 25X1 following clothes were issued to each VP man: 1 winter coat, 1 winter uniform, 1 summer uniform, 1 pair of shoes with buckles, 1 pair of ordinary shoes, 2 khaki shirts, 3 undershirts, 1 belt, 1 cap, 1 field cap, 3 neckties, 1 pair of shorts, 1 pair of bathing trunks, 1 pair of gym shoes, 1 wollen cap.
22. At the end of 1953 [redacted] 25X1 a flying VPL unit of about 12 pilots with the ranks of sub-lieutenant to senior lieutenant was stationed at Kamenz airfield. These pilots had allegedly been trained in the USSR. The unit and the pertaining ground unit were quartered in the Panzer Kaserne. During air activity, take-offs and landings were made by individual aircraft. 8
23. During December 1952, aircraft technicians of Unit No 500 had been detached to a school near Moscow, allegedly near the newly built Lomonosov University. In this connection, Leninbergen was mentioned. The detached personnel were not selected on account of political reasons or special qualification, but all of them came from class-conscious workers families.
- 25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. For layout sketch of quartering area of air technical school of the VPL in Kamenz, former Panzer Kaserne, see Annex 1. Objects I and II had previously been reported by other sources, while Object III is reported for the first time. The latter object was probably separated from the other objects after the transfer to Kamenz of the signal training course from Augustusbad at the end of April 1953. The sketch represents a diagrammatic view of the quartering area. According to available information, another and smaller quartering area with several garages and workshops is located adjacent to the north.
- 25X1 2. [redacted] Comment. The information on the white-bordered epaulets of the officers acting as instructors at the air technical school is received for the first time.
- 25X1 3. [redacted] Comment. The reported information on the organization of the training courses confirms previous reports. The activation of the 11th Co is reported for the first time. The groups of training personnel are probably assigned to the headquarters of the school.
- 25X1 4. [redacted] Comment. For installations at Kamenz airfield, see Annex 2. Most of the statements on the airfield agree with previous reports by other sources. According to previous reports, up to 4 hangars were available at the field. The dismantled runway mats were shipped to Drewitz airfield.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL/

- 9 -

25X1

5. Comment. The quartering buildings north of Objects I and II probably housed the 2d VPL Regt and the attached supply battalion prior to July 1953. These units were then transferred to Drewitz airfield (Aeroclub Drewitz). The present occupation of these quartering buildings is not known. It is possible that the personnel of the school for pilot instructors of the Aeroclub are now quartered there, if they are not quartered at Kamenz airfield.

25X1

25X1

6. Comment. it is known that the training course of signal officers which had been stationed in Augustusbad near Radeberg prior to April 1953 was assigned to the air technical school in Kamenz as the 10th Co. The reported personnel strength of the headquarters probably included the groups of training personnel. The school may have a total strength of about 1,600 men provided that each company numbers 120 students.

25X1

7. Comment. Major Boldt has previously been reported as chief of the special school at Sonnenstein Castle near Pirna.

25X1

8. Comment. about 300 KVP officers returned to Kamenz from the USSR in November 1953. It has not been determined how many of the returnees are technical or flying personnel. The returnees will probably be distributed to the individual military posts of the VFL. It is assumed that a training school for VFL pilot instructors is stationed at Kamenz airfield.

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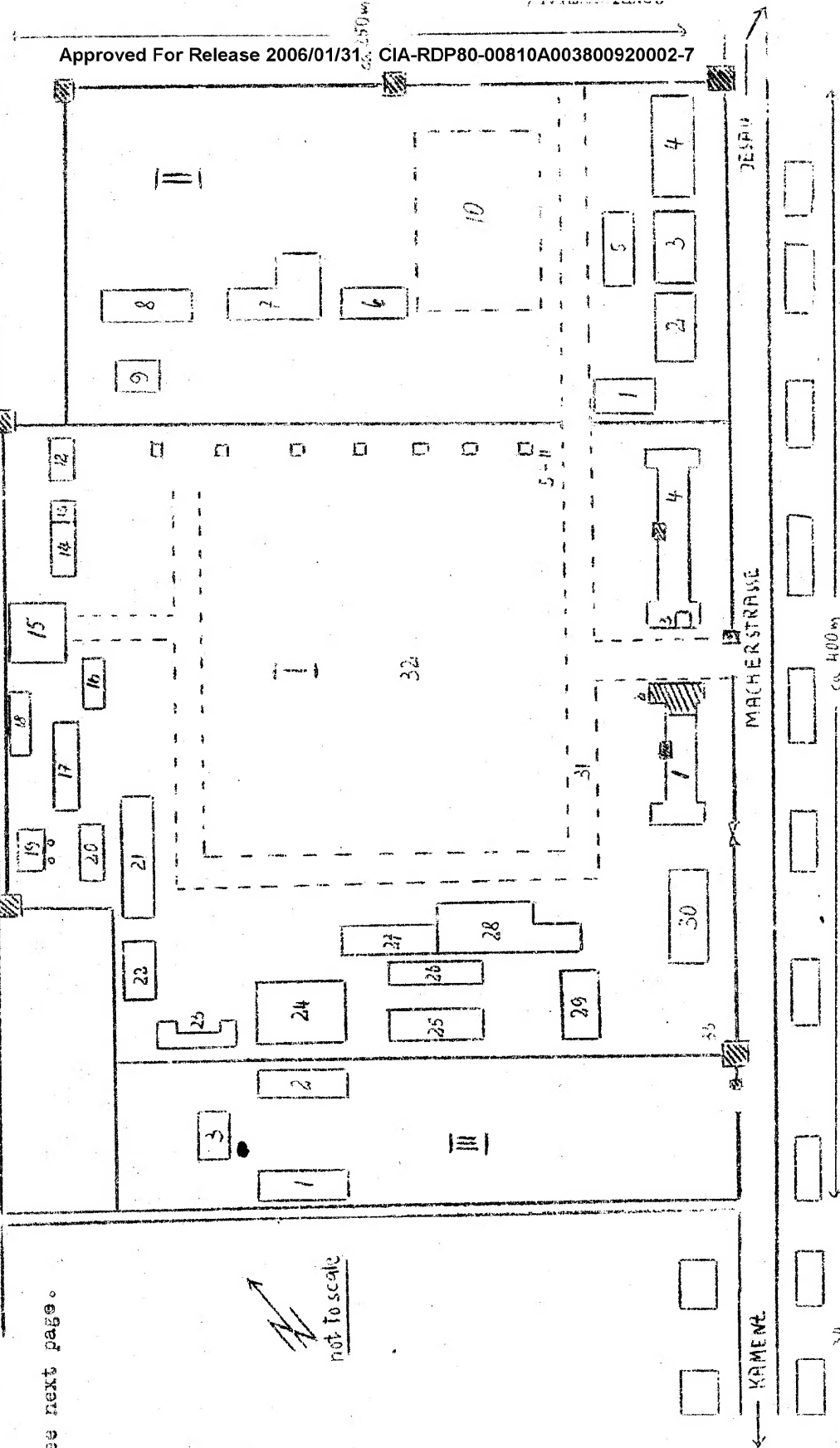
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Air Technical School of the VFL in Karsak

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For legend, see next page.

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Legend to Annex 1

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25X1

- 2 -

Air Technical School of the VFL in Kamenz

- 1 Headquarters building, 25 x 10 meters, 3 stories
- 2 Guardhouse
- 3 Classified materials center
- 4 Three-story instruction building, 50 x 10 meters
- 5 to 11 Ammunition storage facilities
- 12 Three-story quartering building, 20 x 10 meters, for the 5th Co
- 13 Weapons stock room
- 14 Three-story quartering building, 30 x 10 meters, for 3d and 4th Cos
- 15 Newly built kitchen, 30 x 20 meters
- 16 Three-story quartering building, 20 x 10 meters
- 17 Three-story quartering building, 30 x 10 meters, for 1st and 2d Cos
- 18 Heating plant
- 19 Filling station
- 20 Machine house, 15 x 5 meters
- 21 Two-story instruction buildings, new structure
- 22 Workshop, 20 x 8 meters
- 23 Workshop, 30 x 10 meters
- 24 Newly built hangar, 40 x 30 meters
- 25 Two-story dispensary, 20 x 8 meters
- 26 Two-story officers building, 20 x 6 meters, former headquarters building
- 27 Gymnasium) 30 x 10 and 8 meters respectively
- 28 Culture house)
- 29 Dispensary, 20 x 8 meters
- 30 Three-story officers club, 15 x 5 meters, new structure
- 31 Paved road
- 32 Athletic field and drilling ground covered with grass
- 33 Watchtowers
- 34 Billets for officers of headquarters or instruction personnel

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- 3 -

Object II

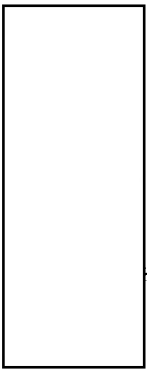
- 1 Three-story instruction building, 20 x 8 meters
- 2 Three-story quartering building, 25 x 10 meters, for 8th Co
- 3 Three-story quartering building, 30 x 10 meters, for 6th Co
- 4 Three-story quartering building, 30 x 10 meters, for 9th Co
- 5 Three-story quartering building, 25 x 10 meters, for 7th Co
- 6 Three-story quartering building, 20 x 10 meters, for 11th Co
- 7 Kitchen, 25 x 10 meters, three-story building; attached to it vacant quartering building
- 8 Three-story quartering building, 25 x 10 meters, vacant
- 9 Two-story quartering building, 15 x 8 meters, vacant
- 10 Athletic field

Object III

- 1 Three-story quartering building, 40 x 10 meters
- 2 Three-story quartering building, 40 x 10 meters
- 3 Kitchen, 25 x 10 meters

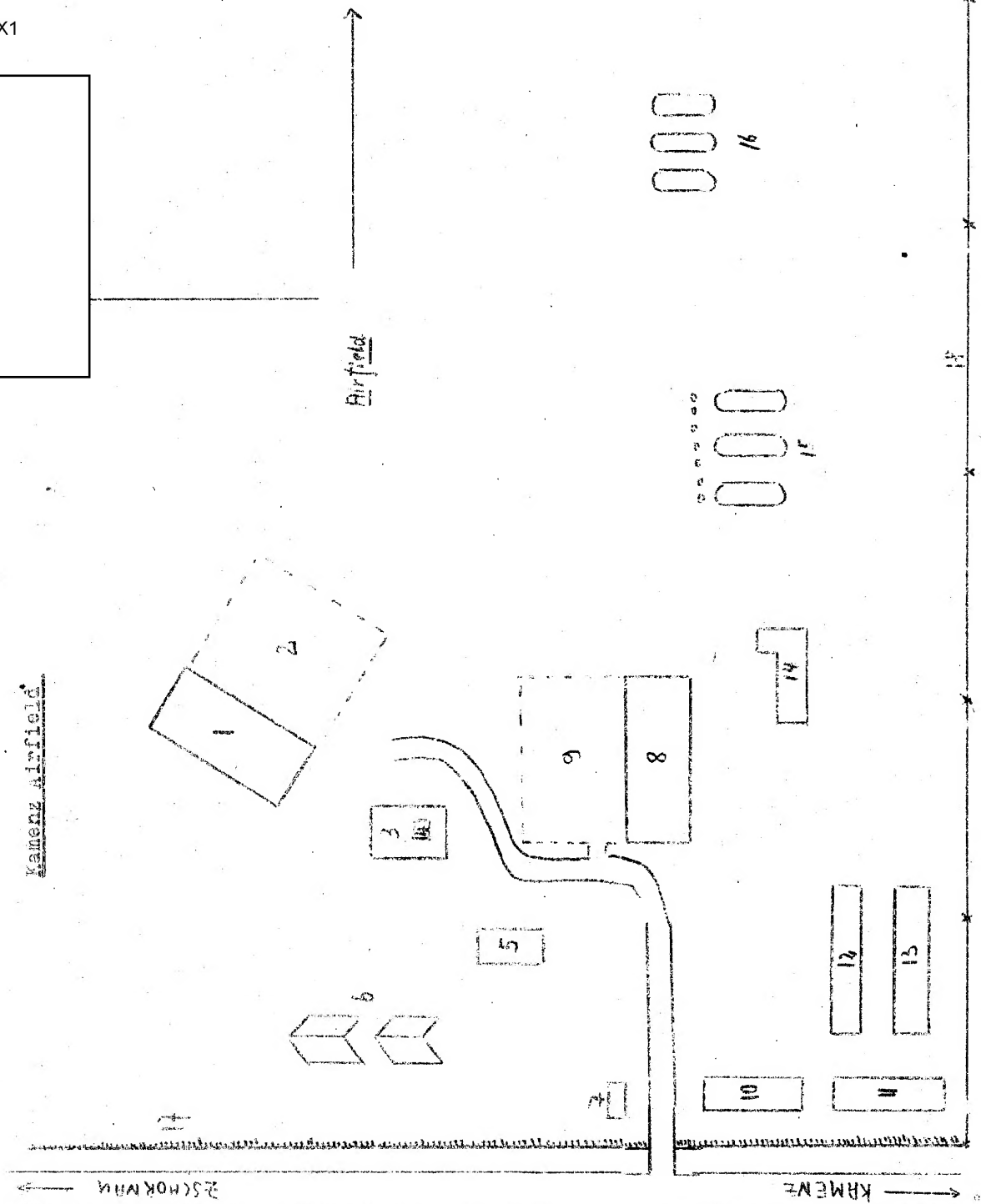
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Kamenz Airfield

Airfield



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For legend, see next page.

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Legend to Annex 2

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25X1

- 2 -

- 1 Hangar, 50 x 20 meters
- 2 Concrete apron in front of hangar, 50 meters square
- 3 Flight control station
- 4 Control tower
- 5 Heating house
- 6 Two tents, each 50 x 20 meters
- 7 Guardhouse
- 8 Hangar, 50 x 20 meters
- 9 Concrete apron in front of hangar, 50 meters square
- 10 to 13 Quarters buildings
- 14 Messhall for construction workers, 20 x 10 meters
- 15 Fuel dump with 3 fuel containers and barrel dump
- 16 Fuel dump with 3 fuel containers
- 17 Wall
- 18 Barbed wire fence

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